



June 2, 2009

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen, Jr.  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1707 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Van Hollen:

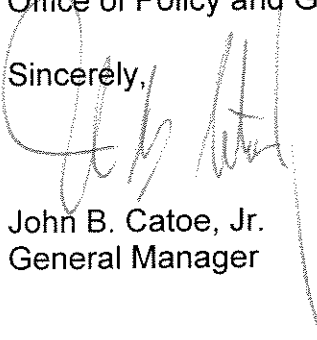
On behalf of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro), I am writing to express Metro's continuing commitment to working with our state and local partners to improve access to the Medical Center Metrorail station in light of the relocation of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center to the new Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland in 2011.

I applaud your commitment to providing safe and reliable transportation options for the patients, employees, and visitors who will be coming to the new Walter Reed hospital complex in the future. I understand that you have requested funding in the next surface transportation bill to design and construct a pedestrian underpass between the existing Medical Center Metrorail station and the hospital complex. As you may know, Metro is currently conducting a study at the request of the State of Maryland that is analyzing this concept as well as other means of improving pedestrian access to and from the Medical Center station.

Metro works very closely with our jurisdictional partners on projects to expand and enhance access to our system. Such projects are essential to serving the growing demand for transit across our region. Should the funding for this project at the Medical Center station be secured, Metro will work with Montgomery County and the State of Maryland to facilitate the design and construction of the pedestrian tunnel.

Thank you for your continuing support of Metro. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or have your staff contact Sarah Kline, Director, Office of Policy and Government Relations at 202-962-1632.

Sincerely,

  
John B. Catoe, Jr.  
General Manager

**Washington  
Metropolitan Area  
Transit Authority**

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A District of Columbia,  
Maryland and Virginia  
Transit Partnership